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11 SEP 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant to the President for National  
Security Affairs

SUBJECT : Termination of the National Intelligence  
Survey Program

1. The National Intelligence Survey (NIS) has been produced over many years as an encyclopedic collation of information and analysis of the more or less permanent characteristics and resources of foreign countries. With the pressure of resources, this Program has been whittled down in scope from an earlier extensive effort to provide near contemporaneous information on a wide range of countries. In the past few years, the Program has come under increasing pressure due to the feeling that it contributed comparatively little to high-level national intelligence customers, whatever its contribution at the lower and training levels of the departments. In recent months CIA has come to the conclusion that it can no longer justify the use of its resources for this publication in competition with other requirements. This matter was discussed with the United States Intelligence Board, and at its meeting of 19 July 1973 the USIB noted the CIA decision to terminate the Program and approved a phase-out plan to be implemented during the remainder of Fiscal Year 1974. The attached notification is planned to be sent to NIS customers with respect to this termination.

2. The NIS Program is authorized in paragraph 1 of NSCID No. 3. Termination of the Program would require a revision of the NSCID. Rather than move on this one subject only, however, it is my suggestion that I be permitted also to develop recommendations for possible revision of the other

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| Classified by   | Signer |
| Exempt from general declassification schedule of E. O. 11652, exemption category:   |        |
| 53 (1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7), (8), (9), (10), (11), (12), (13), (14), (15), (16), (17), (18), (19), (20), (21), (22), (23), (24), (25), (26), (27), (28), (29), (30), (31), (32), (33), (34), (35), (36), (37), (38), (39), (40), (41), (42), (43), (44), (45), (46), (47), (48), (49), (50), (51), (52), (53), (54), (55), (56), (57), (58), (59), (60), (61), (62), (63), (64), (65), (66), (67), (68), (69), (70), (71), (72), (73), (74), (75), (76), (77), (78), (79), (80), (81), (82), (83), (84), (85), (86), (87), (88), (89), (90), (91), (92), (93), (94), (95), (96), (97), (98), (99), (100) |        |
| Approved for release by _____   |        |
| Date of review _____  |        |

NSCID's, which in my opinion will make them more reflective of the spirit of the President's memorandum of 5 November 1971. This would also enable us to reflect and respond to some of the recent Congressional discussions of the role of these NSCID's with relation to the National Security Act of 1947, and the statutory authority under which the Agency and the intelligence community operate.

3. On 20 September I plan to disseminate to NIS customers the attached notification of termination of the Program and, unless you object, I shall defer the revision of NSCID No. 3 until I have developed recommendations for the possible revision of other NSCID's.

/s/ W. E. Colby

W. E. Colby  
Director

Attachment

CONCUR:

Mr. Proctor handcarried to Mr. Colby  
Deputy Director for Intelligence

11 September 1973

ADDI/PVWalsh/tb (10 Sept 73)

Distribution:

|  |                                   |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Orig & 1 - Addressee w/att                   | 1 - DDI (File: NIS Program) w/att |
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| 1 - Executive Secretariat/USIB w/att         |                                   |
| 1 - Chairman, NIS Committee (Mr. King) w/att |                                   |
| 1 - DDI (File: MCA-40) w/att                 |                                   |

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Termination of the National Intelligence Survey

1. General Survey

a. Program will be terminated by the end of FY 1974.

b. NIS General Survey production programming for FY 1974 will be limited to the following countries: Denmark, Republic of China, Spain, Turkey and Czechoslovakia. The NIS production schedule for FY 1974, approved by the NIS Committee on 24 January 1973, is amended to reflect this change.

c. All inputs from contributing agencies will reach the NIS Division of OBCI, CIA, by 1 January 1974. The remaining 6 months of FY 1974 will be devoted to clearing the pipeline and making proper disposition of the files and records. (At present 22 General Surveys--including the 5 listed above--remain in the pipeline, plus 3 or 4 detailed sections.)

2. Inventory

a. NIS publications in the inventory at the end of FY 1974 (approximately 2,000 titles, 3,200 cu. ft) will continue to be available for dissemination through established channels from CIA until existing stocks are depleted.

b. CIA does not plan to continue to reprint on demand titles out of stock. Any NIS reproducibles desired by DIA will be turned over to DIA for retention.

3. Factbook

a. CIA will continue to compile, coordinate, edit, publish, and disseminate an interagency Factbook. It will resemble closely the NIS Factbook in format, scope, and method and scheduling of production.

b. Factbook contributions and cooperation from the DoD, the Department of State, and others must continue if the Factbook is to continue.

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